



*TOWN OF CANTON, MASSACHUSETTS*

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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June 27, 2006

Department of Telecommunications and Energy  
Attn: Mary Cottrell, Secretary  
One South Station  
Boston, MA 02110

Madam/Sir:

My name is Michael Trotta. As Superintendent of Public Works for the Town of Canton, MA, I would like to comment on the investigation by the Department of Telecommunications and Energy regarding G.L. c. 164 ss 116B. **(D.T.E. 06-48)**

In short, I oppose the idea that anyone other than the utility companies, themselves, should be responsible for paying for adjustments of their own utilities and appurtenances in any public way, private way, or easement in which it resides.

The Town of Canton has historically provided all utility companies, especially the Bay State Gas Company, with more than ample advanced notice of paving project schedules within the Town of Canton. Many times, the gas company has failed to respond, resulting in the burial of some of their gates. If there are any buried gates in the Town of Canton, then it is as a result of Bay State Gas Company's neglect and they should be responsible for repairing or replacing them with their own money.

The State, nor the Cities and Towns of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, should not contribute Chapter 90 funding towards the repair and maintenance of the utility company's neglected work. In my history of Public Works service, the State has always contacted the owner of any utilities within State layout for adjustments or repair and maintenance while their own projects were in force. The repairs and adjustments made were at the cost of the utility owner, and that includes the city or town utilities.

I do not feel that the citizens of Massachusetts should incur the costs to maintain private utility company property. The Chapter 90 fund allotments are much needed by the cities and towns to better as many of our roadways as possible. It should not be given away to private companies.

Please contact me (781) 821-5023 for any questions regarding this matter. Thank you for your consideration.

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Michael Trotta  
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